GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5151
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
DESIGN OF RAILWAY COACHES
C. KRISHNAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the present design of the railway coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of coaches presently being attached to Superfast trains which have outlived its life and are in a bad shape; and

(d) the steps taken to replace these coaches?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5151 BY D KRISHNAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.04.2000 REGARDING DESIGN OF RAILWAY COACHES

(a) & (b): The present design of coaches was adopted in early 1950s. Since then, a number of design improvements have been continuously incorporated over the years, to make the coaches more comfortable, reliable and safe. Some of the recent improvements made and under implementation now are given below:

(i) Introduction of Bogie mounted Air Brakes.

(ii) UIC vestibules.

(iii) Introduction of Roof mounted Air-conditioning units.

(iv) Change over from 24 volts to 110 volts train lighting system.

(v) Polyvinyl flooring & Stainless steel toilet inlays .

(vi) Use of Non-wood materials for coach construction.

(vii) Introduction of Fire retardant curtains and furnishings, etc.

However, the present coach technology, which has been stretched to its limits, is unable to cope up with the ever increasing coach utilisation and customer aspirations. In order to make a quantum jump, Indian Railways have entered into a transfer of technology contract with M/s. ALSTOMLHB of Germany for manufacturing in the Railway`s Production Units modern, light weight, stainless steel new generation coaches of latest technology with improved safety and riding comfort.

(c): NIL

(d) Does not arise.